

CS 97-55

A  
Melvin H. and Lurlene M.  
Anderson  
1719 W. 265th Street  
Harbor City, CA 90710  
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

NOV 4 1997

Chrm. Reed Hundt, FCC  
1919 M St., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt,

Re. TV Industry's Rating System

Yes, we agree that putting the  
TV industry in charge of determining  
what is suitable for children is like  
"-- putting the mouse in charge of the  
cheese."

It seems obvious that the FCC should  
now reject the TV Industry's new rating  
system as unacceptable, & devise its own.  
They should also begin enforcing the broadcast  
indecent laws against TV stations that  
violate it. This failure to enforce the  
indecent laws is a primary reason  
why so much programming offends Americans.

Sincerely,

Mr. & Mrs. Melvin H. Anderson

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CS 97-55

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MAR 24 1997

March 4, 1997

**\*Attention: Reed Hunt, Chairperson, FCC\***

As you must appreciate, the United States is made up of a uniquely diverse population. In this diversity is the vast array of values and personal lifestyles that all warrant acceptance and respect.

As a school social worker (as well as a parent) working with families from so many different perspectives, I must speak up against the current submission of a television rating system based on age. Each family must be allowed to determine the appropriate shows for their members based on their own values and not those imposed by our government.

Some families prefer to limit the amount of violence to which their members are exposed while others take more offense to foul language or programming of a sexually significant nature. In addition, children develop at different stages, making an aged-based rating system inexact.

I would recommend a more informative rating system that allows parents to know the general content of the programming; permitting them to then make an informed decision based on their own values and the understanding of the child(ren) for whom they are responsible.

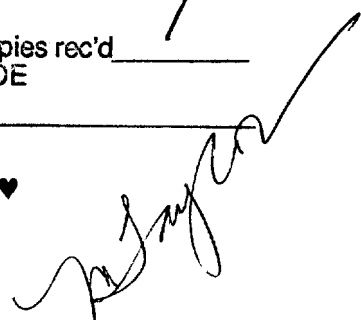
Isn't it time that our government give its constituency the respect to make informed decisions, rather than assume that they need to be spoon fed the answers as if they are too unenlightened to, or incapable of, making their own decisions? I hope you will work towards empowering the people of this country rather than perpetuating the assumption of ignorance and irresponsibility.

Thank you for this consideration. I hope to receive a response from you at 220 Kent Hollow Road, Kent, CT 06757.

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Sincerely,

♥Marjorie Taylor, CSW♥



CS docket # 97-55,  
FCC 97-34

CS 97-55

Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Re: Pending Television Rating System

Dear Mr. Hundt,

Because of the flood of TV violence, sex, and bad language, I feel that the rating system needs to be based on CONTENT rather than age. Also, there needs to be a return to respecting THE FAMILY HOUR at which time only wholesome and appropriate programs are aired.

The current trend of television programs is contributing to the moral decay of our once great nation. I urge you to base the new television rating system on content of programs, which will be a better guide for parents trying to monitor their children's TV viewing.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Brnd

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3-5, 1997

Hon. Reed Hunt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hunt:

I am deeply concerned about the new "rating system" for TV programming, to be developed by the television industry or FCC for use in conjunction with a "V-Chip."

A "V-Chip" and rating system must NOT be an excuse for the TV industry to shift responsibility for establishing and enforcing sound program standards off of its own shoulders onto the shoulders of beleaguered parents OR for the FCC to not enforce the broadcast indecency law -- which, as you know, was again recently upheld by the Federal courts.

Opinion polls have repeatedly shown that a large majority of the population are concerned about the glut of sex, violence and vulgarity on TV. A primary part of this concern is the effect on children and youth. But large numbers of adults are also personally offended and do not feel that TV shows represent their own values.

The TV industry says it is giving the public what it wants and that programming merely reflects reality. But opinion polls and statements from prominent liberal and conservative spokespersons show that most people do not want a steady diet of gratuitous sex, violence and vulgarity on TV, either for themselves or their children.

Nor does TV reflect "reality" for the vast majority of the American people who, unlike all too many TV characters and guests on daytime talk shows, are not jumping from bed to bed with just about anyone other than a spouse OR engaging in one violent or antisocial act after the other OR constantly cursing OR going through life without any need for God. Even many "reality-based" programs are more fiction than fact.

Not that all TV programming is offensive or harmful. But, all too often, the TV industry serves its own interests, rather than the public interest, and reflects as "reality" the lifestyles and values of a small percentage of amoral or totally depraved individuals, rather than community standards and values. Ratings and a "V-Chip" may have their place, but not to "identify" a steady stream of cultural sewage packaged as TV "entertainment." The answer to this type of programming is to curb it at its source.

It has also been brought to my attention that Congress has instructed the FCC, "in consultation with appropriate public interest groups," to determine if rules established by the TV industry for rating TV programming are acceptable and, if not acceptable, to work with "appropriate public interest groups" in order to establish its own rating system.

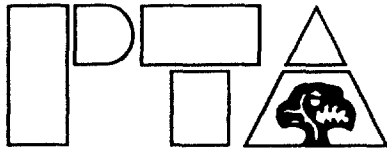
In either case, I urge you to include Morality in Media [212-870-3222] as one of the "public interest groups." Founded in 1962, this national, interfaith organization has been at the forefront of efforts to uphold standards of decency on radio and TV.

Sincerely,

*Jean Delaney*  
158 McConnell Dr.  
Bayport, NY 11705-1739

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ILLINOIS CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS  
901 South Spring Street • Springfield, Illinois 62704  
(217) 528-9617

March 6, 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners  
c/o Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street N.W., Room 222  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

RE: CS Docket No 97-55, FCC 97-34

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA, Urbana High School PTSA, Urbana PTA Council, and the Illinois PTA to voice my opposition to the v-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group, on January 17, 1997. The rating symbol on the TV screen does not provide sufficient content information so parents can make decisions about what is appropriate TV programming for their children. Major surveys released this fall which demonstrate overwhelming parent preference for a rating system that gives parents information about the content of programs were conducted by the National PTA, *U. S. News and World Report*, and Media Studies Center/Roper. Parents do not want the TV industry to interpret what is best for their children. Parents want to make those choices themselves based on content information about the program. Any rating system without content descriptions on the screen and publicized in periodicals that carry TV scheduling is useless.

The FCC, by law, is required to determine whether the industry's rating system has met statutory requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. I do not believe this system does so and ask that the FCC not approve the industry rating system. Instead, I am requesting the following:

- That under no circumstances should the FCC approve the industry's rating system. Further, the FCC should accept no rating system that does not include content information about programs such as V (for violence), S (for sexual depiction and nudity), and L (for language);
- That the FCC require a V-chip band broad enough that would allow parents to receive more than one rating system;
- That the rating icon on the TV screen be made larger, more prominently placed on the screen, and appear more frequently during the course of a program;
- That the rating board be independent on the industry and the FCC and that it include parents; and
- That any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent research to determine if it meets the needs of parents.

I can't thank you enough for this opportunity to comment on such an issue so important to children and families.

Sincerely,

*Janet R. McClellan*

Janet R. McClellan  
District 10 Director  
Illinois State PTA  
104 W. Oaks Road  
Urbana, IL 61802-9704

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CS 9755

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Chairman Reed Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

The government has a valid interest in protecting all Americans - both children and adults - from indecent programming. In the words of the Supreme Court, there is "a right of the Nation . . . to maintain a decent society."

Please change the commission's policy and enforce the broadcast indecency law against TV stations. Past failure in this area is a primary reason why all too much TV programming is offensive.

Also, with the dawn of the V-Chip the FCC must reject the flawed ratings proposal from the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) and substitute instead a system that rates programming by content.

We are "one Nation under God" because our founding fathers said so and because, 200 years later, we the American people, choose to be.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

*Gilbert L. Sarto*

*Gilbert L. Sarto* (Name)

*Mr. Van Overwall* (Address)

*J. P. Van Overwall*

c: Morality in Media, 475 Riverside Dr, NYC 10115

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CS 97-85  
MARK A. BUNTZ  
6585 SOUTH YALE AVENUE, SUITE 900  
TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74136

February 27, 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Chairman Reed Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY

Dear Mr. Hundt:

Your position holds you accountable to the American people. By failure of the FCC to enforce the Federal broadcast indecency law against TV stations, the morals and value of Americans -- both adults and children -- are trespassed against within their own homes by what you allow to be broadcast on TV.

Stop - Think - Act today! Change your policy. Enforce the broadcast indecency law against TV stations. Seriously consider your responsibility as regards the V-Chip ratings. Reject the flawed ratings proposal from the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) and substitute instead a system that rates programming by content, as parents demand.

Step beyond the past and give our present and future a hope free of the indecency which TV regurgitates.

Sincerely,



MAB/tsd(ms:mab11)

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CS 97-55

MAY 24 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, DC 20554

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We are "one Nation under God" because our founding fathers said so and because, 200 years later, we the American people, **choose** to be.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Mrs James Murray (Name)  
33 Pike Dr. (Address)  
Wayne, NJ 07470

c: Morality in Media, 475 Riverside Dr, NYC 10115

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Chairman Reed Hunt

In this package you will find a short, clear summary about the negatives of the T.V. v-chip. Additionally, remarks on the second and third pages point accusingly at a prominent democrat who, thinking only of his own year-2000 election prospects, abandoned in 1996 the nutritional and psychological health of America's immediate and future generations.

Do we hold this man responsible or do we prefer in the name of muddled thinking to let him have his way? Isn't it better for us to expect a person who aspires to the highest position in the land to show (at this critical time in the lives of our children) extraordinary courage on crucial issues that really do affect the spirit and future direction of this country?

Frank Lichtensteiger

*F. L.*

cc: The Editors of NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO  
The Editors of THE LOS ANGELES TIMES  
The Editors of THE NEW YORK TIMES  
The Editors of THE WASHINGTON POST  
Some U.S. Senators and representatives  
Others

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CS 97-85

1001 4 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, DC 20554

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We are "one Nation under God" because our founding fathers said so and because, 200 years later, we the American people, choose to be.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Hannah + Christopher Cohen (Name)

8 Sunset Terr. (Address)

Wayne, N.J. 07470

c: Morality in Media, 475 Riverside Dr, NYC 10115

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CS 97-85

**Karen Crecco Lucarelli**  
RR 7 Box 7386  
Moscow, Pennsylvania 18444

REC-4157

February 10, 1997

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Reed Hundt  
FCC Chairman  
1919 M. Street, NW  
Washington, DC 22036

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am writing to express my opposition to the newly implemented television ratings that are based on age rather than on program content. With a rating based on program content, a parent would be able to tell if there would be any objectionable language or violence that they did not want their child to see.

With the ratings as they are, we are dependent on someone in the television industry to decide what is or is not acceptable for children based on their age group. I would like to know what type of program content would be in the TV-PG rated program. How much violence would there be? How much, if any, nudity would there be? Movies based on these ratings can be very deceiving!

Please support our system that would identify a program by content. We are much more interested in whether a program has any nudity, violence or sex in it than we are concerned with what age group your Television Ratings Implementation Group thinks it should be for.

Sincerely,

*Karen Crecco Lucarelli*

Karen Crecco Lucarelli

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CS 97-55

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

February 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Federal Communication Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Reed Hundt

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's rating system.

The National Association for Family and Community Education and its affiliate, The Texas Association for Family and Community Education are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. We are very concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television rating system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television ratings system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely,

*Donna Insley*  
Rt 1 Box 1  
Eastland Tx 76448

*Merton Valley FCE*

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**fce**  
Texas Association For  
Family & Community Education

CS 97-55

MAR 2 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

February 1997

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1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

*Allen L. Phillips*  
*410 S. Dixie*  
*Eastland, TX 76448*  
*FCE Morton Valley Club*

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February 1997

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1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

*Mary Lamb*  
*722 Cherry*  
*Ranger 24 76470*  
*Martin Valley FCE*

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CS 97-55

February 3, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

INDEXED

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Dear Chairman Hundt

I am writing to request that a public hearing be held regarding the television rating system.

Yours truly,

Beverly M Rhodes  
President Ohio Valley F.C.E. Assoc

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CS97-~~85~~

Feb 10, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt

FCC

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100-24-1537

Dear Chairman Hundt,

We do expect you to enforce the Broadcast Indecency Laws.

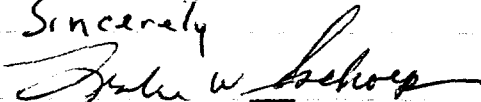
The past failure of the FCC to enforce the Laws is the primary reason why so much TV programming offends all Americans.

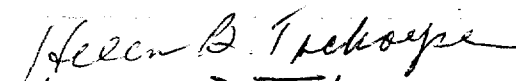
The govn. has a valid interest in protecting young & old from indecent programming.

I want you to change your policy — start enforcing the broadcast Indecency law against TV stations.

With the dawn of the V-chip — FCC must reject the flawed ratings proposal from the Motion Picture Assn (MPAA) and substitute instead a system that rates programming by content, as parents demand.

Sincerely

  
LESLIE W. TSCHOEPE

  
HELEN B. TSCHOEPE

10203 Sunflower

SAN Antonio, Tx 78213

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CS97-55

(LETTERHEAD)

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February 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Commissioner Reed Hundt

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's rating system.

The National Association for Family and Community Education and its affiliate, North Carolina Extension Homemakers Association, are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. We are concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television rating system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television rating system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely,

Iris C. Westmoreland  
North Carolina Extension Homemakers

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CS 97-55

FEB 26 1997

**fce**  
Texas Association For  
Family & Community Education

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February 1997

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Federal Communication Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

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The National Association for Family and Community Education and its affiliate, The Texas Association for Family and Community Education are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. We are very concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television rating system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television ratings system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely,

*Sue Allsup*  
426 main St.  
Ranger, Texas 76470  
Morton Dolly FCE

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CS97-55

**fce**  
Texas Association For  
Family & Community Education

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February 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
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1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

*Gerry Zimmerman, Off Public Policy FCE*  
*P.O. Box 566*  
*Carroll, TX 76435*

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Sincerely,

Jammie Belgu

410 N. Dixie

EASTLAND, TX 76448

MORTON VALLEY FCE

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Sincerely,

*Luella Litchens*  
*1008 W Commerce*  
*Eastland, Tex. 76448*  
*Martini Valley FCE*

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February 1997

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Federal Communication Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Betty Nichols  
Rt. 2, Box 1850  
Eastland, Texas  
76448

Morton Valley F.C.E.

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**fce**  
Texas Association For  
Family & Community Education

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Sincerely,

*Leo Williamson*  
President  
Morton Valley F.C.E. Club  
Rt. 3 Box 198-H  
Ranger, TX 76470

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The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Federal Communication Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
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Sincerely,

*Sharon Ashman*  
*Box 1 - Box 84*  
*Ranger, TX 76470*

*Morton Valley*  
*FAF*

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Sincerely,

*Billie Beggs*  
*Morton Valley FCE*  
*Eastland, Tex. 76448*